--- 25 Cigarettes - “Canadian Tobacofina”, Montreal - “30-10D” - 1962 ---

The Canadian operations of “Benson and Hedges” was established by Arthur Walsh, a London (U.K.) bookkeeper who had been placed in charge of New York in 1895, and who opened the first “Benson and Hedges” store in Montreal in 1906. In the late 1920’s “Benson and Hedges” moved into the Canadian cigar market, when they purchased the assets of “J. Hirsch and Sons Ltd.”, Montreal - who had been manufacturing cigars since the 1880’s.

In July 1958 “Philip Morris Incorporated” (which had merged with “Benson and Hedges”, New York, in 1954) also merged with “Benson and Hedges (Canada) Limited” [**8-10D]**, and in 1961 opened a modern cigarette factory at Brampton, Ontario [**1-80-E]**.

In 1962 “Benson and Hedges (Canada) Limited” purchased “Tabacofina of Canada” **[30-10D]** and acquired their cigarette factory in Montreal where Tabacofina had for some years manufactured *Belvedere* cigarettes. The company’s range of cigarettes included *Parliament; Alpine; Benson & Hedges* 100 mm - plain and menthol; *Mark* 10 - plain and menthol; *Belvedere*, and *Belmont*.

--- 25 Cigarette - “Canadian Tabacofina”, Montreal - “30-10D” - 1962-63 ---

After their acquisition by “Benson & Hedges” in 1962, the cigarettes coming from “Canadian Tabacofina” ran a *weekly* number sequence, extending from 101 to 200 (in varying type-faces) without a company coding. This covered two years production. Since the cancellation 119 is on a copy of **RC-416** (for “over-weight” cigarettes - which is dated from late 1961 to early 1962) I feel that they were running weekly codes (probably four weeks per month) - which I will begin in January 1962. The 20 cigarette pack is illustrated below simply to establish the origin of this stamp coding, which ***does not bear*** a company code.

--- 25 Cigarette - “Canadian Tabacofina”, Montreal - 30-10D - 1962-63 ---

[★RC-394]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1963	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	174	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- 25 Cigarettes - “Canadian Tabacofina”, Montreal - 30-10D - 1964-66 ---

“Benson & Hedges / Canadian Tabacofina” continued their *weekly* number sequence, now using two digits (having dropped the leading “2”) and extending at least from **11** to **73**, still without a company coding. This coding covers about two years. I have little doubt that the sequence does not end at **73**. The table should be adjusted as new items are found.

--- the cancellations read vertically down - 10 copies to date ---

[★RC-394]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1964	---	---	---	---	---	**21**	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**46**
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1965	---	**53**	**57**	**61**	**65**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	**54**	---	---	**66**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	**67**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	**64**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

--- C-378 - 25 Cigarettes - “Canadian Tobacofina”, Montreal - 10D-30 - 1969 ---

The following series found on the imperforate Series “C” twenty-five cigarettes stamp uses a heavy 5 mm. Gothic letter as a date code. They come from the period 1966 - after the code reversal to **10D-30** had occurred. I had felt that these were a complete alphabetic sequence reading in *months* of production.

Counting those used on the imperforate Series “C” twenty-five cigarette stamp used by “Canadian Tabacofina”, and adding those from the parent company “Benson & Hedges”, the letters **A, C, E, H, I, K, L, O, R, T** and **W** have been collected from this sequence. Since **E** and **T** can also be found on the “Wings” series (**RC-817**) it would seem that they immediately preceded the introduction of “Wings” in 1969.

★**RC-394** - 25 cigarettes, imperf, coded **C / 10D-30** by “Canadian Tabacofina”, Montreal

[★RC-394]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969	---	---	**C**	---	---	---	**I**	---	**K**	**L**	**W**	---

--- 25 Cigarettes - “Wings” Series - “Canadian Tobacofina”, Montreal – “10D 30” - 1969-74 ---

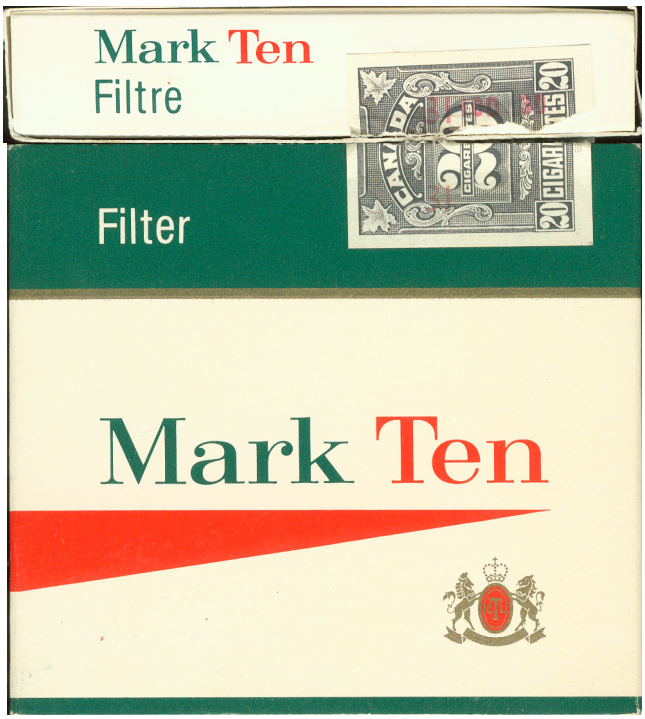
Then follows a numbered sequence on the twenty-five cigarette “Wings” Series using a modern Roman typeface, running from 01 to 78 (the highest found to date), which judging by the packaging fragments on the stamps, mostly came from *Belvedere* boxes.

The use of **RC-817** - the twenty-five cigarette “Wings” Series - began in 1968 and seems to end around 79 in August 1974.

--- the cancellations read vertically down - 20 copies to date ---

[★RC-817]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1968	---	---	---	---	---	06	---	--	---	---	---	---
1969	---	---	---	---	---	18	---	20	---	---	---	---
1970	25	---	---	28	---	---	31	---	33	34	35	---
1971	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1972	---	---	---	---	---	54	55	---	57	58	---	---
1973	61	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	70	71	72
1974	---	---	---	---	77	78	79	---	---	---	---	---

The dating sequence ***does not seem to be correct***. The introduction of the “Wings” Series should ***not begin*** until at least 1969. Most of the other code sequences of the period begin at 11, omitting 13, and run until August 1974, when the Department ceased the issuing of excise stamps.



★**RC-386** - 20 cigarettes, “Wings” Series, imperforate, on a 3¼” x 2 ⅞” x ⅝” light cardboard slide box of **Mark Ten -** FILTER TIP cigarettes, manufactured by “Canadian Tabacofina”, Montreal.
The stamp is cancelled **31 / 10D-30 / 31** and the coupon inside expired on June 30, 1980 - in ten years

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File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 25 cigarettes \ 30-10D - small - black],
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